

Middlesex Recreation Commission  
1200 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, NJ 08846  
Commission Meeting Minutes for April 13, 2015

Chair Sherley Penrose opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commission members present:

Cassius Kennick  
Sherley Penrose  
Rich Rutkowski  
Lileen Schwarz

Members Absent:

Glenn Dickey  
Bob May  
Rich Tarbous

Also present:

Dina Fornataro-Healey, Recreation Director  
Mike Girvan, Assist. Recreation Director  
Steve Greco, Council Liaison

Rich Rutkowski made a motion to accept February 2015 and March 2015 minutes with a second by Cassius Kennick and approved by all members present.

**Public Session:**

No one present

**Directors Report**

- Basketball has ended on March 14<sup>th</sup>. We are currently working with a new vendor, Ball-U-Man, to offer a four week clinic for children in grades 3-8 beginning on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also, for the fall, details are being worked out with the MHS Varsity Boys coach to offer a boys clinic.
- Wrestling had 36 children registered and ended in mid-March.
- Travel Basketball ended with the girls 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade team being 38-0 and winning three tournaments in the Garden State League. The boys 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade team lost in the final of the Garden State League. The 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade boys' team lost in the playoff of the Garden State League.
- Bowling program winter session ended on April 6<sup>th</sup> at Stelton Bowling Lanes with 14 children. There will be no other additional sessions until the fall.
- Tennis will be using US Sports Institute for a First Play program at Mt. View from April 13<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> for kids ages 3-14 and also adults. There are different time slots for different age groups. We will also host a tennis tournament on June 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Toddler spring session has started. There are 32 children registered.

- PonyShare has 15 children registered for the session during spring break which is April 6<sup>th</sup> – April 10<sup>th</sup>. Summer camp will run from July 13<sup>th</sup>-July 17<sup>th</sup>. Both will be held in Mt. View Park.
- Baseball/Softball has 102 children registered. The coaches' meeting is on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Photo day is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>. A permit was submitted to use the Mauger Old Gym for photos. Lil Sluggers (Kindergarten co-ed) has 14 children registered. They will play in a league with Dunellen teams. Games begin on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Small Fry Boys (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) has 23 children registered. They will play in a league with Dunellen teams. Games begin on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Small Girls (1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) has 10 children registered. They will play in the Somerville Baseball/Softball Inc. rookie division with various local towns. Junior League Girls (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) has 31 children registered. They will play in the Somerville Baseball/Softball Inc. minors division with various local towns. Farm League Boys (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) has 4 children registered. The parents were emailed twice about low registration and were given the option of playing in the Middlesex Little League minor division or join Dunellen baseball. One withdrew all together and was reimbursed the entire fee. Another joined MLL and MLL was sent a PO for the fee they paid to Recreation. Major League Girls (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) has 20 children registered. They will play in the Somerville Baseball/Softball Inc. majors division with various local towns.
- Decode Your Diet seminar will run on April 20<sup>th</sup>. There are 6 people registered.
- Men's Softball has six teams and paid. A managers meeting will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The season will begin on April 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Movie Night in the Park is scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> and August 7<sup>th</sup>.
- MountainView Park's new entryway sign was ordered and received. The old sign was lost during Super Storm Sandy. DPW will install as soon as possible. A capital request has also been submitted for a new double sided information center and a new map holder. The old ones are located outside the tot playground across from the baseball field. The map has significantly changed and the new information center can hold the ordinances as well as other information.
- Summer Basketball League registration is planned to be out within the next two weeks. Emails have been traded with our insurance carrier and they say it is no issue to have 16 year olds in the league. They have provided a waiver that each participant must sign prior to playing in the league.
- Summer Playground is scheduled for June 29-August 7<sup>th</sup>. Permits were received for Watchung and MHS. Hazelwood cannot be used this summer due to construction. Applications for staff positions are being accepted through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications are available at the office and online. After spring break, additional applications will be brought the MHS front office. Registration will be put out within the next two weeks.
- Yoga new session will run from April 27<sup>th</sup>-June 8<sup>th</sup>. Registration is open and there are 3 people signed up thus far.

### **Councilmatic report** -

1. Council member Greco is still working with the Borough Auditor to resolve the separation of Recreation trust accounts from the Recreation operating accounts.
2. Council member Greco stated it was explained to him that additional help for Recreation is a budgetary concern. For example, if Recreation programs increase then additional help will increase too.

### **Trust Account and Account details report**

Motion to accept made by Rich Rutkowski pending the auditors' approval and seconded by Cassius Kennick. Roll call was taken with all Commissioners approving.

### **Commission Committee reports** - No reports

### **Board of Education Report** - No representative

### **Correspondence –**

1. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> our Recreation Director received an anonymous letter attacking her and her character. She forwarded this letter to the Council, Mayor, Borough Attorney, Commission and the Police. She has received no response from the Council, Mayor and Borough Attorney. The entire Recreation Commission issued this statement, "As stated earlier, we just want to reiterate that we stand 110% behind our Recreation Director in the job that she is doing."

### **Volunteer nomination –** None

### **New Business –**

1. The Commission approved the list of baseball and softball coaches which were given by the Rec Director pending they all are current with the Rutgers safety course, fingerprinting and submitted the signed policy. Motion was made by Rich Rutkowski seconded by Cassius Kennick; roll call vote was taken, all in favor.
2. A request was made for playground/park equipment for handicapped children. Our Recreation Director stated she has already been working on this and getting quotes for ADA swings to be installed in Mt. View Park. Her ultimate goal is to have an area with stand alone equipment and a sensory garden.

### **Old Business**

1. Consideration has been asked to create soccer and basketball programs for high school students who wish to play while not on the high school teams. The director would love to create these programs but needs additional help. Councilman Greco will advise the Mayor and Council about the need for more help in the recreation department office with existing programs and with the opportunity to add more programming primarily for high school students who are not on other teams but still want to participate in a sport.

Seeing no other old or new business, Commissioner Penrose read a statement advising residents that the approved minutes will be available on the Borough Website within three working days of the meeting and the agenda for the next meeting will be posted on the Recreation Bulletin Board no later than 48 hours prior to the monthly meeting.

At 8:25 p.m., Commissioner Rich Rutkowski made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Cassius Kennick.

Next Recreation Commission meeting will be May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 7:30 pm at the Recreation Center.

Minutes submitted by  
Linda Chicarelli, Rec-Commission Secretary